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1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The City of Murphysboro has fostered a culture of
3 BBQ for over 75 years; and

4 WHEREAS, The Travel Channel named Murphysboro as one of 8
5 "BBQ Paradise" locations in the United States; and

6 WHEREAS, Murphysboro is home to the Annual "Praise the
7 Lard" BBQ Cook-Off, which is sanctioned by the Memphis Barbeque
8 Network and the Kansas City Barbeque Society; for 27 years, the
9 "Praise the Lard" BBQ Cook-Off has attracted thousands of BBQ
10 teams to Murphysboro from points across the globe; and

11 WHEREAS, Murphysboro is home to numerous active and vibrant
12 BBQ restaurants, including the 17th Street Bar and Grill and
13 Pat's Barbeque; and

14 WHEREAS, Those restaurants are respectively owned by Mike
15 Mills and Pat Burke, both members of the prestigious Barbeque
16 Hall of Fame and residents of Murphysboro; and

17 WHEREAS, Pat Burke has competed in over 255 BBQ contests
18 and has taken home 185 grand championships, more than any
19 living person; and

1 WHEREAS, Mike Mills is affectionately known as "The
2 Legend", having won 4 World Championships and 3 Grand World
3 Championships at the Memphis in May "Super Bowl of Swine"; and

4 WHEREAS, Murphysboro has previously been home to such BBQ
5 establishments as Whitt's BBQ, Brown's BBQ, Big Charlie's BBQ,
6 Kilby's BBQ, and many others; it is also home to Cairo BBQ
7 Sauce, produced by the Killebrew Supply Company in Murphysboro;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, Murphysboro is the home of dozens of BBQ teams
10 that compete locally, regionally, and nationally; and

11 WHEREAS, All of these facts have contributed greatly to the
12 economic development of Murphysboro and the entire State of
13 Illinois; therefore, be it

14 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
15 NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we
16 designate the City of Murphysboro as the BBQ Capital of
17 Illinois; and be it further

18 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
19 presented to the people of the City of Murphysboro as a symbol
20 of our esteem and respect.